

**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Application Number:

Filing Date:

First Named Inventor: Eric Torbet

Application Title: Spring-Loaded Tube Squeezing Device

Art Unit:

Examiner Name:

Mailed: 2004 Jan 6 Tues

At: Goleta, CA

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir or Madam:

Attached is a completed Form PTO/SB/08 (substitute for form PTO-1449). Following are comments on the references listed thereon pursuant to Rule 98:

**Gill** shows a tube squeezing device comprising two lever handles, two rollers, and a crank. The user must manually compress the rollers together in order to squeeze a tube.

**Johnson** shows a tube squeezing device comprising two rollers and two torsional springs. The user is alleviated of the task of squeezing the tube, but no means for separating the rollers, and no means for turning the rollers to advance the device forward, is provided.

**Tschida** shows a tube squeezing device comprising two lever handles, two fractional rollers, and two elastic bands. The device is self-advancing and requires no crank, however the user must still manually compress the fractional rollers in order to squeeze a tube.

None of the references shows a tube squeezing device which alleviates the user of the task of squeezing the tube, which provides a means for advancing the device forward, and which provides a means for separating the rollers to allow for insertion and extraction of a tube, as is recited in independent claim 1 and hence its dependent claims 2 to 9.

Very respectfully,



Eric Torbet  
Applicant Pro Se

P.O. Box 1452  
Goleta, CA 93116  
(805) 692-5297

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Substitute for form 1449/PTO**

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

Sheet 1 of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Eric Torbet
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

Sheet 1 of 1

**Attorney Docket Number**

---

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

---

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>2</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>3</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.